

Board of Education Meeting Recap

The Township High School District 211 Board of Education met on Thursday, February 11, 2016, in the Anne Koller Board Meeting Room at the G.A. McElroy Administration Center. The following is a recap of important items that were acted upon at the meeting.

Recognition

The Board of Education recognized William Fremd High School student **Naman Agarwal** who recently earned a 36, the highest possible composite score on the American College Test (ACT) exam. On average, less than one percent of all ACT test takers earns a top score. Since 1998, more than 80 District 211 students have achieved a 36 on the ACT. See the complete list [here](#).

Two Fremd High School students earned perfect scores on their Advanced Placement (AP) exams during the spring 2015 testing. **Jiamin Huang** was one of just 22 students in the country to earn a perfect score on the Macroeconomics AP exam and **Kevin Stevens** was one of just 67 students to earn a perfect score on the Computer Science A AP exam.

Special education is highly governed by federal law, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and State regulations. In accordance with mandates under these rules, beginning at age 14-1/2, all students eligible for special education services are required to have a formal transition plan developed as part of their individualized education program (IEP). The transition plan's purpose is to prepare students for life after high school through the development of goals addressing the areas of post-secondary education and/or training, post-secondary employment, and independent living.

As a result of integrated transition planning processes, effective programming, and collaborative partnerships developed to support students, many District 211 students have access to opportunities and experiences that produce meaningful employment and increase their personal independence. The Board viewed a presentation by Associate Superintendent

D211 Cares Campaign Report

For over 30 years, High School District 211 employees have participated in an annual charity drive in the fall, raising hundreds of thousands of dollars and helping support countless charitable organizations. In recent years, Combined Charities has been a useful resource for the District's annual giving campaign.

This past November, the District again offered a chance for individual employees to contribute, but utilized a different process. Over the past several years, the majority of District 211 employee pledges and contributions have been for local causes. Based on this trend, this school year District 211 collected and distributed employee donations, with each employee's entire donation going directly to their chosen cause.

This year, High School District 211 employees contributed \$15,885 to the 2015-2016 "D211 Cares" campaign. The top local charitable causes selected by District 211 employees included: *Cougars in Need*, *Hawk's Nest*, *Palatine Family Crisis Fund*, *Ray Mills Fund*, *Saxon Magic Closet*, *Victor Viking Fund*, *District 211 Foundation*, *Excel Beyond 211*, *Partners for Our Communities (POC)*, and *Illinois Special Olympics*.

Community Engagement Update

The Community Engagement Facilitating Team, comprised of 18 community members, two students, two Board of Education members, and five District representatives, has successfully completed the first round of Community Engagement sessions. These sessions were held on Monday, February 1 and Tuesday, February 2 at Fremd High School and Schaumburg High School, respectively. The topic of both sessions focused on the State of the District. Both Community Engagement sessions included the same

At the conclusion of the group activities, spokespersons for each table reported key ideas. All the information and responses generated at each community engagement session will be summarized and provided on the District's Community Engagement website (<http://adc.d211.org/communityengagement>). A verbatim summary of the reports generated by community members at each table at the engagement sessions will be compiled and presented to the Board of Education upon completion of the Community Engagement.

Six more Community Engagement sessions will be held in March, April, and May. Two meetings will be conducted each month, both with the same topic and the same

The Board of Education discussed gender-based facilities. The Board requested that the Board policy liaisons research additional information on policies and best practices used by other school districts in Illinois and other states. This information will be shared with the Board at one of the April 2016 meetings.

Administrative Appointments

The Board of Education approved the appointment of **Eric Wenckowski** as director of athletics and activities, effective July 1, 2016. Mr. Wenckowski is currently director of human resources, a position he has held since 2011. Prior to that, Mr. Wenckowski was a 12-month and a 10-month assistant principal at Fremd High School, and also served as the school's dean of students. He began his District 211 career as a business education teacher at Fremd High School in 2002, while beginning his teaching career at East and West Leyden High Schools in 1995. Throughout his career, Mr. Wenckowski has a total of 17 years coaching high school athletics, including football and wrestling. Mr. Wenckowski earned his bachelor's degree in human resource management from Northern Illinois University in 1991, and his master's degree in education from Roosevelt University in 1996. He earned his type 75 administrative certification from Roosevelt University.

The Board also approved the appointment of **James Britton** as director of human resources, effective July 1, 2016. Since the 2010-2011 school year, Mr. Britton has served as principal at Hoffman Estates High School. Prior to that, Mr. Britton had been a 12-month assistant principal at Hoffman Estates High School, served as director of special education, and was program administrator at District 211 Academy-North. Prior to coming to District 211, he served as a dean and a social worker at Community High School District 218's Summit Learning Center from 2003-2005. Mr. Britton's work experiences also include serving as a mental health counselor at Hoffman Estates High School. Mr. Britton earned his bachelor's degree in social work from Northern Illinois University in 1991, and his master's degree in counseling from Roosevelt University in 1996. He earned his type 75 administrative certification from Roosevelt University.

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